

REMARKS

Reconsideration of above-identified application is respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 2 remain for consideration.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Fukumitsu et al. (US 6,141,052) in view of Wakabayashi et al. (US 5,903,706). The Examiner found that most of the components in claim 1 were found in Fukumitsu et al, but recognized that Fukumitsu et al. failed to disclose the accommodation means with a substantially tubular shape, the supporting means for supporting the accommodation means at portions thereof in the proximity of the opposite ends of the tubular shape and the providing means for providing a space for allowing the accommodation means to be turned without contact with said body when said displayed section is pivotally closed on said body and the supporting means comprising a shaft mounted at each end of the image pickup means. To rectify this deficiency in Fukumitsu et al. the Examiner applied Wakabayashi et al. stating that Wakabayashi et al. discloses the accommodation means with a substantially tubular shape, the supporting means for supporting the accommodation means at portions thereof in the proximity of the opposite ends of the tubular shape and the providing means for providing a space for allowing the accommodation means to be turned without contact with said body when said displayed section is pivotally closed on said body. The Examiner also stated Wakabayashi et al. had a shaft at each end.

Claim 1 has now been amended to positively recite that the turning means includes supporting means which comprise a shaft mounted at each end of the image pickup means rotatably disposed within a bearing member for positive location in a portion of said display section.

Wakabayashi et al. fails to disclose this structure, as the Wakabayashi et al. device is totally supported within a cylindrical housing and not at its ends by a pair of shafts within a bearing member. Accordingly, there is no teaching or suggestion in either Fukumitsu et al. or Wakabayashi et al. to mount an image pickup means by shafts extending from each end of the pickup means in bearing members for rotation through 180 degrees of movement by supporting the image pickup means at its ends within a portion of the display section. Accordingly, a combination of Fukumitsu et al. and Wakabayashi et al. fails to disclose or suggest that which is now positively recited in claim 1.

Wakabayashi shows in Figures 6 and 24 two variations of his invention. In the variation shown in claim 6, there is only one shaft 48 within a bearing member, as the other end of Wakabayashi's lens element includes a cylinder member 47 which is not supported within a bearing member, but in a spacer fitted on the cylinder 47. Similarly, the alternative device shown in Figure 24 (Col. 11, line 63 through Col. 12, line 21) only provides one shaft through 220 through a friction mechanism to 226, not a bearing, and the cylinder portion similarly is not rotatably supported within a bearing member but on a friction member or spacer 224. Thus, Wakabayashi fails to teach or disclose use of shaft members positively engaged within a bearing member for smooth support and rotation.

The Examiner also rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Fukumitsu et al. in view of Wakabayashi et al. as applied to claim 1 in further view of Isashi (US 5,898,600). Since claim 2 depends on claim 1, the basic combination of Fukumitsu et al. and Wakabayashi et al. is not met and therefore claim 2 is also patentable for the reason outlined above.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.


PATENT
450100-4943

Enclosed is our check in the amount of \$950.00 in order to cover a three month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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